

Virginia Brownfields Conference

Update from the Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization

March 1, 2012

Gail Cooper
Deputy Director, Office of
Brownfields and Land
Revitalization
cooper.gailann@epa.gov



Today's Presentation

- Brief Overview of Brownfields Program
- Spotlight on new initiatives
- Accomplishments
- What's coming up in 2012/2013
- Questions and Answers



Brownfield Grant Program

OVERVIEW

Seven Types of Grants:

- Assessment grants
- Revolving Loan Fund grants
- Cleanup grants
- Multi-purpose grants
- Job Training grants (proposals due April 2012)
- State and Tribal Response Program
- Area-Wide Planning (RFP anticipated Summer 2012)



Spotlight on New Initiatives

MULTI-PURPOSE GRANTS

- provides for assessment and cleanup funding in one grant
- Required to own property at time of application
- Non-profits not eligible

AREA WIDE PLANNING GRANTS

- provides planning assistance
 - advance an ongoing local planning process
 - develop an area-wide plan for a brownfields-impacted area
 - -identify next steps and resources needed to implement the plan
 - ...within a brownfields-impacted area such as a neighborhood, district, city block, corridor, etc.



What Do the Grants Cover? Who is Eligible?

Provide funding for:

- Inventory sites
- Characterize sites
- Assess sites
- Plan for cleanup and redevelopment
- Conduct community involvement and facilitate area wide planning
- Clean up sites for redevelopment

Who is eligible?

- State, local, and tribal governments
- General purpose units of local government
- Land clearance authorities
- Quasi-governmental entities
- Regional Council or redevelopment agencies
- Non profits (cleanup, job training and area-wide planning only)



AREA WIDE PLANNING PROJECT IN VIRGINIA

Update on Roanoke, VA

- The AWP will focus on the **Rail Corridor Planning Area, which covers 558 acres,** contains portions of four neighborhoods (Gilmer, Loudon-Melrose, Hurt Park, and West End neighborhoods) and is home to over 5,000 residents. The project area is aligned with and adjacent to the Roanoke River.
- There are at least **60 brownfield sites** in the area, many of which are located near densely populated residential areas. As industries have closed and properties have fallen into disrepair, they have caused a widespread decrease in property values and increase in blighted conditions.
- The Rail Corridor area-wide planning process will identify future cleanup and reuses of brownfields in the Corridor through community involvement and detailed analysis of economic conditions, market demand, and needed infrastructure improvements.



Sources for EPA Technical Assistance

Targeted Brownfields Assessments (TBAs)

- Non competitive
- Administered at the Regional Office
- Contact Regional Brownfield Coordinator

(http://www.epa.gov/swerosps/bf/regcntct.htm)

TBA's are generally at the EPA Region's discretion



Sources for EPA Technical Assistance

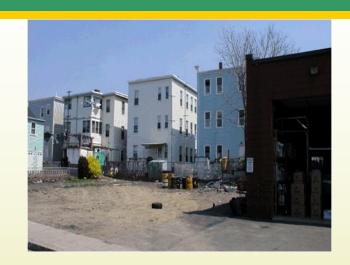
Technical Assistance to Brownfield Communities

- TAB program is a grant program (new round coming soon)
- Four grantees in zones across the US provide geographically-based technical assistance and training to communities and other stakeholders on brownfield issues.
- Technical assistance can address various brownfields issues
- R3's TAB grantee is New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) http://www.njit.edu/tab/

NATURAL DISTRICT

BROWNFIELDS AND URBAN GARDENING

- •Brownfields program has provided TBA funds and k6 technical assistance grant funds to support expanding community garden and urban agriculture movement to highlight land revitalization opportunities.
- •Recently shared via website, webinars and brochures many case study examples
- •Continue to develop general outreach and technical tools to support outreach efforts and document best practice examples from communities nationwide.
- •Highlight urban gardening and agriculture in the ARC grants as an end use or interim activity







URBAN WATERS INITIATIVE

- A Priority Initiative for EPA Administrator Jackson
- Accelerate the protection and restoration of our urban waters
- Reconnect people- especially those living in underserved or economically distressed communities to their urban waterways and adjacent lands
- Build local capacity to use clean and safe waterways as drivers for community revitalization
- This year seven federal partnership pilots were identified and underway



2011 EPA BROWNFIELDS RESOURCES

- \$32.5 million in Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) & Cleanup grants
- \$49.5 million to states and tribes under CERCLA 128(a),
- \$13.0 million to existing RLF recipients in the form of supplemental funding,
- \$ 6.3 million in Brownfields Job Training grants and,
- \$4 million to fund Area-Wide Planning pilots



Program Accomplishments as of Feb 2012

- 18,392 Properties Assessed
- 702 Cleanups completed
- 74,809 Jobs Leveraged
- \$18 Billion in Cleanup and Redevelopment funds leveraged
- State and Tribal Program: 46,000 sites enrolled; 56,000 cleaned; 549,000 acres into productive reuse (data represents 2006-2010 accomplishments)



WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN FY12

Multiple Purpose Grants

Announcement expected May/June 2012

Compete a new round of Technical Assistance to Brownfields Community (TAB) grants

• RFP anticipated Fall 2012

Area-Wide Planning Grants

RFP anticipated Summer 2012

Support ASTSWMO Brownfields Focus Group in grant activity to further Urban Gardening

- address identified gaps in contaminant risk and plant uptake,
- best practice soil management strategies
- and practitioner training